

SNIPER AMBUSHES FOUR DRIVERS

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Dutch Youth, Spanish Girl Arrive for Study

America is full of startling new things—fast traffic, big buildings, watermelons, and marshmallows—a pert Spanish miss and an agile young Dutchman have decided. The pair—Gloria Montesinos, 16, of Madrid, Spain, and Arny Willemssen, 18, of The Hague, Holland—arrived in Torrance, Thursday, to study at local schools under the American Field Service program.

For a year, they will live with local families and study the regular American high school curriculum. Gloria will attend Torrance High School, making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Lane, of 1531 El Prado, and their two children, Linda, 17, and Tom, 11.

NHS Student
Arny will be a student at North High School, living with Mr. and Mrs. Francis Stoeckle, of 2612 W. 175th St., and their three children, Donna, 12, Nancy, 10, and Dickie, 6.

The two students got their first taste of Los Angeles smog Thursday on their flight in from New York. Their plane was scheduled to land in Burbank, where th Lanes and Stoeckles were waiting to meet them. Smogged in there, the plane, which carried all exchange students in this area, landed in Long Beach, and they were taken by bus to Burbank.

Both came over from Europe by boat, where, Arny noted, he got seasick. They arrived in New York last Monday, spending several days receiving briefing and seeing the sights.

Liked New York
Gloria was much taken with the sights of New York—the theaters, bright lights of Broadway, the Empire State Building, the United Nations Building, and Chinatown.

"It's wonderful," she declared. "Oh, gee!" was Arny's reaction to the big city, where he noted, "We walked and walked and walked." He found the town too big for his liking, however.

Both speak English with considerable fluency. Arny had six years of English in school, as well as German, French, Greek, Latin, and, of course, his native Dutch.

Mutual Aid
Gloria had two years of English in school and two years of private lessons. Her new "sister," Linda Lane, a senior at Torrance High School, is currently taking Spanish, and the

two girls hope to help each other with their respective native tongues. Gloria's father, Col. Jesus M. Montesinos, is an officer in the Spanish Air Force, and one of her brothers serves in the Spanish Navy. She also has a 21-year-old sister and twin 10-year-old brothers.

Arny's father is a candy factory representative, and he has a 20-year-old brother and a 15-year-old sister.

News of the American Field Service program came to Gloria over the radio, while Arny heard about it in school. Both made application for the scholarships and after a battery of tests and interviews, were finally chosen for the trip.

Looking Ahead
Although she hadn't made definite plans for her future, Gloria wanted to learn English and learn first-hand about life in America. Arny, who hopes to make a career in the foreign trade field, thought he could likewise benefit from the study of American ways. When he returns to Holland, he will have to spend two years in the Army before resuming his schooling in a Dutch university.

Neither has been to America before, although Arny has taken hitchhiking and bicycle trips to France, Switzerland, and Germany.

Both are ardent sports enthusiasts—she for bowling, tennis, and swimming and he for swimming and bicycle riding. Since his Dutch home is only six miles from the beach, he should be at home here.

California Similar
Gloria finds the Torrance climate not dissimilar from that of her native Madrid. Many of the foods, she noted, are made differently here, although many of them are similar.

Some American foods—watermelon, marshmallows, potato chips, and meat loaf—are unknown in Europe, both reported.

American jazz intrigues Arny, and he and Donna Stoeckle were trying to dance "bop" together, but found that their styles were entirely different.

"Too much makeup!" was Arny's first reaction to American girls, although he said he hadn't seen too many of them yet.



SOMETHING NEW . . . Trying out marshmallows for the first time are Gloria Montesinos, of Madrid, Spain, and Arny Willemssen, of The Hague, Holland, as Gloria's new "sister," Linda Lane, offers them some of the delicacies. The two students arrived in Torrance Thursday for a year's study at the local high schools.

Wrestler Stern Victim of Shots

A pot-shot artist, who has been sniping at automobiles driving on Sepulveda Blvd., in the seaside area, is sought by Torrance police after four reports were received last week, that vehicles had been damaged by the marauder.

No injuries were reported, but car windows have been shattered and dents inflicted on the bodies of the vehicles. According to police reports, either bullets, buckshot or some sort of pellets have been causing the damage.

It all began in a big way Wednesday when Ray "Thunder" Stern, popular Southland wrestler, was driving his 1955 Cadillac west on Sepulveda on his way back from a mat engagement in San Diego.

Glass Shattered
Stern and his passenger, George "Great" Scott, who don't chum around in the ring, were thrown for the count when a bullet or piece of buckshot smashed into the right side of the car's windshield and shattered the glass. The Cadillac was traveling on Sepulveda near Ocean Ave., at the time of the mysterious shooting.

Stern and Scott thundered into the Redondo police station to report the incident. After it was determined the shooting took place in Torrance, they deputed to the local station to register the complaint.

Went on to Win
Evidently the mishap didn't hinder Stern's ring prowess, as the Brooklyn grappler teamed with "Cowboy" Rocky Valentine later Wednesday night to pin the Togo Brothers in a tag match at Olympic Auditorium.

Other victims of the sniper included Joseph Darata, 5516 Rockview, G. L. Hoyle, 4609 Milne Drive and Gertrude Hawkins, 2601 Stonbridge, Long Beach.

Mrs. G. L. Hoyle reported her husband was driving west on Sepulveda near Anza at 2:20 a. m. Wednesday, when the right wing of his 1948 model car was broken and two dents put in the right side of the vehicle by the flying missiles.

Hit Three Times
The car was struck three times, said Mrs. Hoyle, who reported the incident later Wednesday.

The sniper struck again sometime between 2:30 a. m. and 2:40 a. m., this time hitting the right side of Darata's car. He was driving west on the street almost Anza. His car was in almost the same spot as the Hoyle's vehicle when hit.

Mrs. Hawkins reported in Thursday morning to the Torrance Police Department and said her automobile was hit by the sniper around 6 p. m., Wednesday.

She was going east on Sepulveda at the time of the mishap, she said.

Fire Group To Donate Relief Aid

Jerry Holomon, vice president of Local 1138, Torrance Firefighters, said Friday that the group has set aside a \$50 check to send as relief aid to eastern areas ravaged by recent floods and hurricanes.

Holomon said the union, affiliated with AFL, answered the appeal of the distressed areas in deciding to send the money. He said also that George Moany, president of AFL, has urged all member unions to contribute what they can to the relief fund.

The Torrance Firefighters will send the check this week to the area of their choice, probably in Connecticut or Pennsylvania, Holomon stated. They will vote tonight on which area will receive their check.

Bakery Burglars Get Cakes Valued at \$5

Hungry burglars made off with \$5 worth of cakes and cupcakes from Jenkins Bakery, 2414 Narbonne Ave., Sheridan F. Jenkins told Sheriff's deputies Thursday.

The thieves apparently gained entrance by breaking a bathroom window and crawling in. Only the cakes were taken.



DR. JOSEPH BAY . . . Heads Chest Committee

Dr. Joseph Bay Heads Advance Gifts for Chest

Dr. Joseph P. Bay, 2723 Highland Dr., has accepted the post of advance gifts chairman for the 1955-56 Torrance Community Chest fund-raising campaign, it was announced Saturday by Phillip Lisman, city chairman for the Red Feather appeal.

Through a committee of 20 volunteer workers, Dr. Bay will handle special individual contributions, ordinarily those from members of professional groups in the city. Kick-off on advance gifts solicitation for the Community Chest is slated for early in October.

Dr. Bay, an optometrist with offices at 1427 Marcelina, was born and raised in Torrance. Although this is his first work with the Community Chest, he has been prominent in numerous other civic activities. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Torrance Rotary Club and a member of the Torrance School Board. Dr. Bay has also worked with the Boy Scouts, a Chest-sponsored agency.

Rites Today For 71-Year-Old Suicide Victim

Thomas Watson, 71, of 2805 Olive St., who committed suicide Friday morning at his home by taking insect poison, will be buried today at Sunny-side Cemetery, following 2 p. m. funeral services at Stone and Myers Mortuary.

Watson's contemplated suicide was the subject of a visit by a neighbor to Torrance police Thursday. Police checked out the report and found him in a highly distressed condition.

Friday morning the neighbor called the local station and Officer H. B. Ingram went to the house. The victim had taken the lethal dosage by the time Ingram arrived, however.

Watson was rushed to Harbor General Hospital by Wright's Ambulance, but died shortly after arrival.

According to a note left by the dead man, he was despondent over ill health. Indications were given in the note that he was suffering from cancer.

A native of England, Watson had been retired for some time. He was a Torrance resident for the past three years.

He leaves his widow, Lillian; Hal P. Wilson, of Compton, a stepson; Mrs. Lois Simpson, of Lakewood, a stepdaughter, and seven grandchildren.

Rev. Nathan Bond, assistant pastor of the First Baptist Church, will officiate at final rites.

MRS. BAKER WILL HEAD CONCERT ASSOCIATION

Mildred Baker, of 23009 Huber St., has been appointed general chairman of the Youth Band Artists Concerts Assn. for the coming year.

The announcement of her appointment was made public Saturday by W. E. Bowen, president of the Torrance Area Youth Bands, sponsors of the annual joint youth band-artists concerts.

She will be assisted by her mother, Mrs. J. S. McMullen, of 1734 Watson. Both are very active in church and youth activities in the community. Ethel Derouin, last year's general chairman, will also assist in the promotion of this year's series.

Mrs. Baker's first duties will be to organize division chairmen and workers for the season ticket drive which will take place during the first two weeks of October. This concert series features joint concerts by the youth band and internationally famous musical personalities.

Artists signed up for this year's concert series include Leonard Pennario, pianist; Joseph Schuster, cellist; and Clarence Turner, contralto. The fourth concert which will be the youth band's "Tenth Anniversary Concert," will feature as soloists the winners of four \$100 cash music scholarships.



MILDRED BAKER . . . Heads Concert Series



HEALTH ROYALTY CROWNED . . . Marea Wright, supervisor of the Recreation Department's summer craft programs, crowns Sharon Bobee and Tommy Stauffer the Health King and Queen of Torrance for 1955. Sharon, who is 8½, represented Torrance Park in the contest and Tommy, 9½, represented North Torrance Elementary School. The selection was announced Friday evening at the department's Open House program in the Civic Auditorium.

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The board praised his accomplishments during his term here, pointing out that the number of participants has grown from 100 in 1952, to more than 900 at the present time. He initiated the High Sierra camping trip for boys while he was here. The numbers of Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y Clubs has grown from three to 13, and five Gra-Y and two Y-Indian Guide clubs have been established.

Brown is a teacher at the 186th St. School.

Promotion Of Police Proposed

Promotion of two veteran Torrance Police Officers will be recommended to the City Council tomorrow evening, Police Chief Willard Haslam reported Saturday.

Sgt. M. H. Porter, a member of the force since 1946, and a sergeant since 1952 is to be promoted to lieutenant, and Officer Robert Wright, member of the force since 1948 is to be promoted to sergeant.

Both promotions are to be effective Sept. 1, Chief Haslam said. Both men topped the eligible list for the promotion on the basis of competitive Civil Service exams.

Stanley Roberts Resigns Y Post

Stanley G. Roberts, secretary of the Torrance YMCA for the past three years, has resigned, effective Sept. 10, the YMCA Board announced Friday.

He will be replaced on a part-time basis by Dick Brown, assistant boys' work director, at least temporarily. The board is considering a successor to Roberts and one will be selected soon, the announcement said. Betty Burnham will continue to be a full-time secretary at the YMCA building.

During the past fund raising campaign, the YMCA fell considerably short of reaching its \$12,000 goal and the board had sought a solution to its financial woes.

Roberts, a veteran of 19 years of YMCA work in the Midwest and California, will be an eighth grade teacher at Perry School during the coming year.

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Scholarship Set Up in Honor of Mrs. Jan Kirby

A Jan Kirby Scholarship Fund, honoring the CAP lieutenant who died of severe injuries and burns received in an Aug. 13 plane crash, was begun last week at the request of her husband, CAP Capt. John Kirby.

He requested that friends donate money to a scholarship fund for members of Group 7 of the Civil Air Patrol instead of sending flowers to her funeral, held last Saturday. A final decision on the nature of the scholarship had not been made.

Final rites for Mrs. Kirby, 35, of 5420 Linda Dr., were held Saturday in Lutheran Church of Resurrection in Southern Torrance. The Rev. Lyle Gansel, officiated, while Civil Air Patrol military rites were conducted by Maj. Arthur Atkins of Long Beach, at final graveside rites in Greer Hills. All pall bearers and members of the firing party were fellow members of Group 7 of the Long Beach CAP.

Mrs. Kirby died Monday in San Antonio, Tex., where she was flown for special treatment after the plane crash. The pilot of the plane, Maj. Davis C. Cochran, of 268 Calle de Andalucia, is reported recovering from less serious burns and bruises at Marsh Air Force Base.

The Laguna Beach Chamber of Commerce, however, made overtures toward reestablishing the college in that city. It offered to purchase the college library, Civic leaders, including the Laguna Beach Festival of Arts, pledged endowments to finance operation of the college. There was a possibility that it could be opened there this fall.

McHugh said his committee of alumni and students had failed to raise nearly enough to pay off the \$50,000 debt of the school and raise an additional \$100,000 for operating funds and money to start construction of a permanent campus. To date, only \$25,000 had been pledged, he said.

The college staff will be on duty through September to clear the records at the Rolling Hills campus. Some students are requesting transfers to other colleges, clerks said, while others waited to see whether the school would reopen.

Boy Finds Toy, Cries All Day

Toys are for children, they say, but this "toy" went off with a bang when 11-year-old Alfred Bash, of 2855 Gramercy, picked it up Friday morning.

Bash's mother, Mrs. Dora Bash, found a mechanical pencil near the garbage can and gave it to her young son to play with. Alfred found out the hard way that the "toy" was a tear gas dispenser in disguise.

He pulled the release lever and suffered a burned hand and a dose of tear gas in his eyes.

The youngster cried all day about it, too.



STANLEY ROBERTS . . . Leaving Y Work

PV COLLEGE DEFINITELY WILL CLOSE

All hope for reopening Palos Verdes College in Rolling Hills this fall has been abandoned, Peter McHugh, head of a committee seeking financial aid for the school, reported last week.

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Hunt Hit-Run Vehicle

Police are hunting a hit and run vehicle that crashed into the front of a vehicle owned by John Todd, 4332 Carmelina, while it was parked in front of his home Friday morning.